

Twenty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time
August 22, 2021

Entrance Hymn: All Are Welcome (BB 415)

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive
built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end division:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
A banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Greeting

In the name of the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And with your spirit.

God have Mercy

You come to heal the contrite. God, have mercy. **God, have mercy.**
You come to call sinners. Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
You plead for us at the right hand of the Father. God, have mercy. **God, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
We give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly One, O God, almighty Father.

Lord, Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer,
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen

Collect

Let us pray:

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

A reading from the Book of Joshua

Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, summoning their elders, their leaders, their judges, and their officers. When they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed all the people:

“If it does not please you to serve God the Most High, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your ancestors served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling.

As for me and my household, we will serve the Most High.”

But the people answered,

“Far be it from us to forsake our God for the service of other gods. For it was the Most High, our God, who brought us and our ancestors up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery. God performed those great miracles before our very eyes and protected

us along our entire journey and among the peoples through whom we passed. Therefore we also will serve the Most High, for this is our God.”

The Word of God
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is kind and merciful, the Lord is kind and merciful.
The Lord is kind and merciful, the Lord is kind and merciful.

Bless the Lord, O my soul and all my being bless God’s name;
Bless the Lord, and forget not God’s benefits.

The Lord is kind and merciful, the Lord is kind and merciful.

God pardons all your iniquities, and comforts your sorrows,
redeems your life from destruction and crowns you with kindness.

The Lord is kind and merciful, the Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful, merciful, and gracious is our God;
Slow to anger, abounding in kindness.

The Lord is kind and merciful, the Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading Ephesians 5:2a, 25-32

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters:

Live in love, as Christ loved us.

Husbands, love your wives,
even as Christ loved the church
and handed himself over for her to sanctify her,
cleansing her by the bath of water with the word,
that he might present to himself the church in splendor,
without spot or wrinkle or any such thing,
that she might be holy and without blemish.

So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies.
He who loves his wife loves himself.
For no one hates his own flesh
but rather nourishes and cherishes it,

even as Christ does the church,
because we are members of his body.

*For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother
and be joined to his wife,
and the two shall become one flesh.*

This is a great mystery,
but I speak in reference to Christ and the church.

The Word of our God.
Thanks be to God.

Alleluia (BB 874)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Your words are spirit and life, O Lord;
Bringing us wisdom, bringing God's wisdom to birth.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel John 6:60-69

The Lord be with you.
And with your Spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

Many of Jesus' disciples who were listening said,
"This saying is hard; who can accept it?"

Since Jesus knew that his disciples were murmuring about this, he said to them, "Does this shock you? What if you were to see me ascending to where I was before? It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail.

The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life.
But there are some of you who do not believe."

Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by God."

As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him.

Jesus then said to the Twelve, “Do you also want to leave?”

Simon Peter answered him, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”

The Good News of Salvation
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily (take a moment to reflect on the readings - what word or phrase stood out to you?)

Universal Intercessions

Universal Intercessions

Response: God of hope, hear our prayer.
(God of hope, hear our prayer.)

For church leadership: that they may hear God’s call to accountability coming through the people of God and that the leadership may respond in fidelity to the Gospel of Christ, let us pray...

For Haiti and all countries plagued by natural and human-made disasters, that they may find comfort and healing, let us pray...

For students returning to school, that they always be filled with the excitement of learning, let us pray...

For the members of this community that we respect one another’s differences and be united in love, let us pray...

For whom else shall we pray...

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts The Summons (BB 382)

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Offertory Prayers

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.
Blessed be God forever.

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Eucharistic Prayer (if you are watching the video or listening to the audio, please follow along and participate with Fr. Jack; and continue with the Communion Reflection Song below. If you are using this at home with your family, continue with the Spiritual Eucharist below)

Service Music: Mass of Renewal (BB 876-881)

Spiritual Communion

*Invite the Family to **stand** for the Our Father. Although without a Priest, we cannot offer the Mystery of Jesus’ Sacrifice on the Cross, we can join with the Church throughout the world in offering a Spiritual Communion until such time as we can again participate in the great Sacrifice of the Mass.*

Our Father

Leader: At the Savior’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

Family: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

Leader: Deliver us Lord we pray from every evil, and grant us peace in our days that by the help of your mercy we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Family: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign forever and ever.

Family: Amen.

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be with us always.

Invite the family to kneel if practical. The following formula of prayers can be prayed together as a family, inviting Jesus spiritually into our hearts.

Leader: Together with the whole Church throughout the world, let us profess an Act of Faith in Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist.

All: O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins and that he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe these and all the truths which the Holy Catholic Church teaches because you have revealed them who are eternal truth and wisdom, who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

In this faith I intend to live and die.

Amen.

Leader: Through His sacrifice on the cross, Jesus made the ultimate act of love by offering himself as expiation for our sins. Let us now make our own act of love as we pray:

All: O Lord God, I love you above all things and I love my neighbor for your sake because you are the highest, infinite and perfect good, worthy of all my love. In this love I intend to live and die. Amen.

Leader: With a humble and contrite heart, we ask the Lord to come to us just as He would if we were able to receive the sacrament.

All: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Communion Song: Taste and See (BB 337)

Refrain

Taste and see, O taste and see, taste and see the goodness of God.
Taste and see, O taste and see, taste and see the goodness of God.

Glory, glory to God most high, glory, blessing and praise.
With one voice, O people, rejoice in our God,
who hears the cry of all in need. **Refrain**

Who has fashioned the earth and sky, who created the deep,
Who exalts the lowly and sets captives free,
who opens the door to all those who seek. **Refrain**

Oh, the love of God! Become flesh of our flesh,
So that we might live in glory. **Refrain**

***Communion Meditation* Peace Prayer (H/O)**

Lord make me a means of Your Peace
Where there's hatred grown
Let me sow Your love
Where there's injury Lord
Let forgiveness be my sword
Lord make me a means of Your Peace

Lord make me a means of Your Peace
When there's sadness here
Let me sow Your joy
When the darkness nears
May Your light dispel our fears
Lord make me a means of Your Peace

Lord grant me to seek and to share
Less to be consoled
Than to help console
Less be understood
Than to understand Your good
Lord make me a means of Your Peace

Lord grant me to seek and to share
To forgive in thee
You've forgiven me
For to die in thee
Is eternal life to me
Lord make me a means of Your Peace

Prayer after Communion:

Let us pray:

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Concluding Rite

Final Blessing

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Creator, and the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit come down on you and remain with you forever.

Amen

Go in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

Song of Sending: Bring Forth the City (G 468)

You are salt for the earth, O people: Salt for the City of God!
Share the flavor of life, O people: Life in the City of God!

Refrain

Bring forth the City of mercy, bring forth the City of peace;
Bring forth the City of justice, bring forth the City of God!

You are a light on the hill, O people: Light for the City of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people: Shine for the City of God! **Refrain**

You are a seed of the Word, O people: bring forth the City of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice, grow in the City of God! **Refrain**